



The Docket

Historical Archives

10-1-2000

The Docket, Issue 1, October 2000

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.law.villanova.edu/docket>

Recommended Citation

"The Docket, Issue 1, October 2000" (2000). *The Docket*. 200.
<https://digitalcommons.law.villanova.edu/docket/200>

This 2000-2001 is brought to you for free and open access by the Historical Archives at Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Docket by an authorized administrator of Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law Digital Repository.

Red Mass 2000

Humility the Theme as VLS Community Gathers for Annual Devotion

By PATRICK KURTAS

The Villanova Law School Community celebrated the annual Red Mass last Friday evening at the Church of St. Thomas of Villanova. The Red Mass, which traces its origins to the Middle Ages, invokes the divine blessing upon the school of law and the legal profession. Presider and homilist Reverend Thomas Betz delivered an inspirational message to the attendees of the mass. Betz spoke of his own upbringing in a lower middle class family and his desire to become an attorney.

In reflecting on his motivations for attending law school, Betz found that he was driven more out of a desire for respect rather than wealth. He relayed to the

Red Mass attendees that his desire to be perceived as important and to have people look up to him were the primary factors propelling him toward the legal profession. Betz used this story as a springboard to endorse the notion of humility, a quality he has observed to be lacking in the world and specifically in the legal community.

Betz cited the pervasive desire within the legal community to climb to the top, often at the expense of others, and stated that we as aspiring attorneys, practicing attorneys, professors of law, and judges, need to keep that urge in check by embracing the notion of humility.

If anyone is qualified to speak on the topic of humility, it is the Reverend Betz. Betz currently serves as the Director of the Office for

Pastoral Care for Migrants and Refugees for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. After receiving his legal degree from the University of Pittsburgh, Betz's desire to positively affect the lives of others in a more direct manner drew him to religious endeavors.

Rather humorously, Betz points out that since his decision to enter the religious realm after receiving his legal degree many have questioned his choice to "give it all away" to become a priest. To this, Betz points to the scriptures for the evening, read by Professors Sirico and Dobbyn, and by Betz himself, as illustrating the lessons that serve as a model for his own life.

In the gospel reading, Jesus washed the feet of his followers at the last supper, a

menial task performed only by slaves at the time. Though Jesus was clearly the superior to all of those present at the supper, he put himself at a level below them and illustrated that the desire to help humanity should come before all other desires. Drawing on his own life and the scriptures, Betz concluded his message by charging his listeners with four tasks. First and foremost, Betz asked that all of the members of the legal community bear in mind the importance of striving to be humble. He stated that, "You may have convinced yourself that you have achieved the success you are enjoying today through your own hard work and your tenacious effort."

Betz urged all of us to remember the many people who helped us to achieve the status we enjoy today. For each of us this list includes friends, family, teachers, professors, and even adversaries. Second, Betz asked that "When your legal skills take you to a position where you are working with the rich and powerful, do not abandon your integrity or lose sight of the fact that these individuals are only human." Coupled with this charge, and third on his list of tasks, Betz urged that the legal community not forget the poor, and that attorneys' "never be afraid to stand next to someone accused of a crime or guilty of a crime." Betz used this request to reinforce the notion that we are

all just people, whether rich or poor, educated or ignorant, self-serving or altruistic.

Finally, Betz charged the legal community to maintain both a respect and a place for manual labor in life. He stressed that thinking can only get you so far, and that doing is the key to achievement.

Reverend Betz's message wasn't the only noteworthy happening at the Red Mass on Friday night. The Villanova University Pastoral Musicians, along with alumni and students from the school of law, supplied home-brewed Villanova sounds for all to enjoy.

Soloist Kristi Jasberg VLS '02 utilized her beautiful voice and tremendous talent to give everyone something to smile about on this joyous occasion. The St. Thomas More Society directed student participation for the liturgy. Students that participated in making the mass a successful event included: Alicia Galvany '02, Lori Borzilleri '03, Mary Beth Breslin '02, Peter Crawford '01, Nicole LaFerriere '02, Stephanie Skasko Rosenberg '01, Joshua Quinter '01, R. Jonas Geissler '01, Shanna Lee Peterson '01, Karen McKinley '01, and Matthew Brown '02.

After the mass, the celebration kicked into high gear at the reception held in Dougherty Hall. Students, faculty, and alumni relaxed and enjoyed an array of great food, high spirits, and jumbo-sized shrimp. The event came off as a huge success and all those that took the time to ensure that it was deserve to be commended.



A Group of 3Ls Celebrate Red Mass, one of the year's highlights.

Let's Get Political: VLS Students Involved

By JIM DELLAFIORA

As the election cycle for the year 2000 comes to a close, Villanova Law's political clubs have been in the thick of the campaign action. At the same time, they have been looking ahead to some races that promise to keep Villanova grads in the political spotlight.

Ryan Costello, co-chair of the Republican Law Society, pointed to two debate parties his group co-sponsored with the Democratic Law Society in the law school's student lounge as

activities the Villanova Republicans have been involved in this year. Costello said he and a few other Villanova students also worked at the Republican National Convention in Philadelphia last summer.

Costello himself was involved on the floor of the convention, overseeing and chaperoning the delegations from Iowa and Pennsylvania.

"That was fun because I got to be right where all the big names were speaking," Costello said. "Other people who worked at the convention were involved in setting up the convention hall

or in security, or worked at hotels to welcome delegates."

Among other election activities for the Republican Law Society during this election cycle have been volunteer efforts for the Bush campaign phone bank in West Chester and hosting GOP Congressman Kurt Weldon at the law school at the end of October.

Matt Bradford, co-chair of the Democratic Law Society, said his group got involved in distributing campaign literature for Democratic Congressman Joe Hoeffel. Members also worked as contributing volunteer

workers for local races, including the campaign of Lynne Yeakel, a former U.S. Senate candidate who is currently running for the State Senate.

Both Bradford and Costello agreed Pennsylvania is still very much a battleground for a number of races this year. In the presidential race, this it looks like every vote could count.

"If you're registered in Pennsylvania you really should go out and vote," Costello said.

Bradford emphasized the importance of the state to the Democrat's hopes of holding on

continued on page 5

INSIDE

October Pix 2

Outside the Box 3

Debate Party5

VLS Job Guru6

2 Johnsons & a Carr 7

Live ABA Report.....8

THE VLS DOCKET
299 Spring Mill
Road
Villanova, PA

www.vlsdocket.com

docket@law.villanova.
edu

October 2000

Editor-In-Chief
"Dangerous"
Dan DeLiberty

Assistant Editors
Carmen "Baby" Bell
Jen "Short Shorts"
Kramer

Contributors
Jen Batchelor
Jim "Jimbo" Dellafiora
Patrick Kurtas
Catherine Sabatino
Derek "Sandman"
Sandler
Shannon "The Greatest"
Ali
Spiros "Da Greek"
Bozikis
Jeff Dougherty

Special Guest Writer
Elaine "Job Guru"
Petrosian

The VLS Docket is published three times per semester during the school year by the students of Villanova University School of Law, Villanova, PA 19085. Letters and articles are welcome from students, faculty, alumni, and the community. The opinions expressed herein are solely those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of The Docket editors and staff or Villanova University.

EDITORIAL

BY DAN DeLIBERTY
Commander-In-Chief

Remember the scene in the movie *Private Parts* when Howard Stern feels liberated because he decides to finally be himself and let loose on the air? You know, cause he was "crucified by the FCC?" (a nod to Con Law there, for you, Professor Lanctot). Well, with this issue of The Docket, I kinda feel the same way - only without the lesbians, strippers, and drunken dwarf. The Docket used to be a little more free, a little more fun, so we're trying to get back to our roots. (I can picture Dean Sargent's eyes rolling to the back of his head right now). We needed a little time to get back on our feet, but, rest assured, The Docket is back, along with a new slogan: *The VLS Docket - We Ain't No Freakin' Law Review*. Just kidding. Seriously, this issue is one I'm proud of - the best one yet under the new regime - and contains a good mix of legal commentary and law school news. Thanks to all who contributed.

Please excuse me for my absence from this space last month - I take it the editor-in-chief is supposed to write an editorial each issue, but production problems prevented me from actually writing. But, have no fear, I'm still here, and lookin' better than ever, I must say. I mean the newspaper, not me, ladies. (Note: I just employed a common writing trick in the repertoire of male Docket staff members, which is to periodically interject a direct, second person comment to the female members of our reading audience - as if writing for the Docket is going to help us get more chicks - it doesn't work). So, staff writers, try it next time you're stuck. Just write a sentence, and add a comma followed by the word "ladies." Kind of like saying "in bed" after you read your fortune from a fortune cookie. Works every time. Even you Law Review people can try it in your next casenote. (Hey, wait a second,

the 1L girls don't know I'm not on Law Review). I mean we Law Review people can try it.

The Docket's recognition amongst students and faculty has grown, thanks in part to our ever present digital camera at school events. We're starting to feel like a real paper. Now if only we had our own office (Hint hint). Rome wasn't built in a day, true, but with today's technology, a year probably wouldn't be unrealistic. But just to let you know, Adam Smith was right with his whole "specialization of labor" concept, so within the next few issues I will be shifting away from the editorial side of things to focus on the business operations of the paper. After all, I'm only one man, ladies.

Now onto slightly more serious stuff. I pay for a student membership in the ABA and Philly Bar Associations. I get a nifty membership card and lots of perks. Well, guess what? We all pay for membership in our school's SBA, we just don't get a card. We sometimes forget, or maybe some don't even know, that **SBA is an association, comprised entirely of us and funded entirely by our money.** Half of our student fee is a mandatory membership fee in the SBA. So we're all "on" or "in" SBA, remember that. The TG food and beer is not free, you paid for it. So recently, in the interests of full disclosure and the pursuit of compelling content for The Docket, I asked the SBA Board to let us print the SBA's operating budget. No big deal, right? After all, it's our association and our money. And, the SBA is the biggest student organization at the law school. If every other student group has to itemize and justify every line item on their budget, then why should the SBA be any different? Well, damn if all hell didn't break loose over little 'ol me and this request on behalf of The Docket. A series of heated e-mails was exchanged and words were flying last week at

the SBA meeting when four of us from the Docket staff explained why we were ticked that they chose to honor the substance of our request - by releasing the budget - but then stuck us by not releasing the figures to us first. (They voted to honor our request by printing in the Gavel Gazette). We smoothed things out pretty well, though.

We did discover that the SBA has some rather curious operating practices, the most glaring being the power to close meetings and/or votes to the public (you students) with a 2/3 vote and then not report on what went on during the closed session. So the possibility for private (secret?) discussions and votes that we will never even hear about is very real. I get a little nervous when people spend my money in private. Doesn't sound too kosher to me. But, as they pointed out, it's not all their fault. They are bound by a Constitution and "handed down" procedures that they concede may need some revamping. I hope this one gets attention fast.

Now for the accolades. Peter Crawford is a capable SBA President who so far has proven very willing to listen to and respond to student concerns. This year's SBA Board seems to be on the ball as well. Orientation this year was the best of the last three years (much credit to Nancy Whalen for this as well). Last weekend, they sent out a nice (and much needed) e-mail warning students not to drink and drive during Red Mass weekend and provided phone numbers for local taxis. SBA board members are the ones who stay till the very end of the TGs on Friday nights to clean up and cart off the kegs we all down so fervently. They did acknowledge in the Gazette that the printing of the budget was in response to the Docket's request (a fact they very easily could have left out). They did allow the Docket to rant and rave for an hour at one of their meetings. An hour, mind you, that each one of the dozen or so students reps could have spent

Thinking Outside the Box

BY JEN KRAMER '01

Despite the fact that "Thinking Outside the Box" sounds more like a motivational seminar than an article for the Docket, I am not trying to be Tony Robbins. However, I do hope a few readers will be motivated by what I write and begin "thinking outside of the box."

What Box?

What box? For purposes of this article, the "box" is VLS (the law school box in which we are all currently serving time). Law school, with its rules, statutes, procedures, and four-corners, intentionally creates box thinkers. Professors and law firms encourage creative and innovative thinking but only in theory and papers. At the end of the day the law wants to hear what the law has already said. New ideas in law seem to happen by chance or in response to chance. Although I have never researched my theory, I believe fundamental changes in the law can more often be attributed to people outside the practice of law than within the field itself. While there are numerous problems that stem from box thinking I am going to concentrate on its effects in finding a career.

People often ask me for advice on how to find a job outside of the traditional law firm/judicial law clerk scheme. I have found over the last year the number of people asking has increased exponentially; part of the reason is of course that most of my friends are third years. However, some of my friends searching for alternatives to practicing law are already attorneys or in their first year of law school. Why do they ask me? I am not a job-finding guru and currently do not have a job slated for after graduation myself, but for the moment let's just assume that people seek out my advice because on some subconscious level they realize I think outside the box. What I am going to tell you now is what I usually tell them in a nutshell.

Life Beyond the Box

If you are unsure whether you want to practice law as an associate, judicial law clerk, in-house counsel, or for a government agency, you are not alone. I have a friend with an offer from one of the top firms in

Continued on Page 5

VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

****BLOOD DRIVE****

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND

11:30 AM TO 5:00 PM

ST. MARY'S HALL - GYM

**FOR INFO., OR AN APPT. PLEASE CONTACT ANUPAM RAMADHAR
THROUGH THE SBA OFFICE OR ARAMADHAR@LAW.VILL.EDU**

**"STILL NO SUBSTITUTE FOR YOU"
PLEASE GIVE BLOOD, THE GIFT OF LIFE**

1-800-GIVE LIFE

Please Bring Some Form of ID.

THE VLS DOCKET
receives partial funding from
the SBA to help defray printing
costs.

We are an independent source
of news and information sup-
ported primarily by advertisers
and sponsors who want to
reach our students.

Submit all event listings, guest
speakers, and news items to us
at docket@law.villanova.edu.

**Be a Hero.
We Need You.
Write for the VLS Docket.
No experience necessary.
Work with hot chicks.**

E-mail us at Docket.

We
don't
play
hard
to get.

Law.com...Where Your Law Books Are Always in Stock.

[Home](#)

[Student Store](#)

[Career Center](#)

[Seminars](#)

[Student Resources](#)

[Free Email](#)

[Law Students](#)



law.com™

At the law.com Student Store, we have over 5,000 titles in stock every day at discounted prices. We ship every order within 24 hours—other online stores make you wait weeks for casebooks and study guides. Plus, if you order over \$100 in materials, we'll ship them to you for free. Visit the law.com Student Store for your casebooks, study guides, software, employment guides, exam preparation materials, and more.

Visit us 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at

<http://store.law.com>

or call 800-628-1160

Outside the Box *continued from page 3*

the country who is seriously considering teaching in an inner city school instead. I have other friends that have accepted or are looking for law firm jobs more to please their parents than for themselves. I do not know whether their parents get out of bed each Monday morning happily anticipating a 70 hour week before them, as they must believe their children soon will, but I am guessing probably not.

You didn't sell you soul to the law (unless of course you do have a Faustian compact, then see me for ideas on renegotiations). There is no binding contract that says you must practice law if you went to law school. Those that fear deviating from the law school norm may feel more comfortable practicing law outside of the traditional sense. There are many jobs where a law degree is invaluable although not required, such as being an agent - sports, literary, modeling, publishing, acting as a consultant, working for Westlaw or Lexis, and foundation work, to name just a few.

For those of you who are willing to consider a job outside the field of law, I have 5 things you can tell yourself to help rationalize why you went to law school. First, education is never a waste. Second, understanding the law (or at least having a degree that says you do) can only help you. Third, just because you don't practice law or put your degree to use the day after you graduate doesn't mean that you never will. Fourth, you will be able to save a bundle in

legal advice. Fifth, and certainly not least, you will never have to ask yourself what would have happened if you went to law school.

Still Stuck in the Box

You went to law school to make money. However, you are not in the top twenty-five percent of the class (actually you are not even in the top fifty percent) which is more or less due to a lack of interest in the law on your part. Your best job offer thus far has been for \$50,000. Although \$50,000 per year is well over the national average, after making payments on your law school loans and taxes each year, \$50,000 is actually about \$25,000. If you don't begin thinking outside the box, you may find yourself making very little money in a job you don't enjoy. Let me dispel a popular belief; lawyers and doctors do not make the most money. After loans, insurance, professional association dues, licenses, etc., they make a lot less than you think, with the exception of a select few. Bill Gates, Donald Trump, and Ted Turner do what they love and made a lot of money in the process. None of these individuals are lawyers or doctors. They probably view lawyers as their worker ants. A friend who works for Salomon Smith Barney has made a point of letting me know that lawyers and doctors are for the most part very low on the higher-income totem pole and not the best investors. The reason is lawyers and law school oriented individ-

uals do not tend to be risk takers. Keeping that in mind, although venturing outside the box is a risk, it's a risk worth taking.

Outside the Box

Kate liked purses. She decided to make a few as a hobby. People were willing to buy them. Now Kate Spade makes millions on her purse-making hobby and is venturing into shoes and clothing. Kate thought outside of the box. She figured out how to put her talents to good use. To go back to an earlier point, I at one time thought watching a biography on Kate Spade was a waste of time, but I managed to put the information I gained to use --- imagine what I will be able to do with all this law nonsense.

What Can You Be?

Personally I have no idea what I want to be when I go "grow up." I am working on my third degree and am no closer to knowing what I want to be than when I graduated high school (please do not mention this fact to my parents, they are already under enough stress). The important thing is not to limit yourself. Depending on your religious or philosophical beliefs, you only have one life to live so live the biggest life you can. Hopefully, when you are old and gray, you will spend your days somewhere you always dreamed you'd live, telling stories to your grandkids, neighbors, or anyone who will want to listen about what you were able to do in just one life-

Get Political *Continued from page 1*

Democrat's hopes of holding on to the White House.

"Pennsylvania is important this year," he said. "The Gore campaign is thinking they can't win without taking Pennsylvania."

Bradford also pointed to the U.S. Senate race in Pennsylvania, where incumbent GOP Sen. Rick Santorum has consistently out polled his challenger, Democratic U.S. Rep. Ron Klink. This race could yield an election night surprise.

"Santorum never polls above fifty percent, and a lot of people see him as too polarizing," Bradford said. "Santorum really has a reputation for being too conservative for the state. I wouldn't be surprised to see that race turn out to be pretty close at the end."

Costello thought Santorum was pretty safe in his re-election bid. "The only way Klink can win is if Gore wins big in Pennsylvania and a lot of people vote straight ticket."

A nearby U.S. House of Representatives race featuring a high profile Villanova Law grad is a contest that could have national repercussions. Pat Casey, class of '92 and the son of the late Gov. Robert Casey, is challenging Republican incumbent Don Sherwood in a rematch of the closest House race of 1998. In that year the race between

Casey and Sherwood, a car dealership owner, went down to the wire to fill the vacant Congressional seat in Pennsylvania's 10th District in the Scranton area. After a long night of counting election returns, Casey lost the seat to Sherwood by a mere 515 votes. In fact, both Sherwood and Casey each carried only 49% of the vote, the remaining 2% divided among third party candidates and write-ins.

Democratic leaders did not wait long to encourage Casey to take another shot at the seat. "If the Democrats take back the

House this year," Bradford said, "that seat will be one they win back."

Among the factors many feel will help Casey this time around is the fact that presidential elections tend to turn out the highest number of voters, particularly among Democratic voters. In addition, there will be another Casey near the top of the ballot this year, that being Pat's older brother Robert Casey Jr., who is seeking re-election for the Auditor General's post. Robert Casey Jr. is widely considered an almost definite candidate for governor in two years, having already raised more than \$1 million for the race.

But depending on how things play out on November 7, Bob Casey Jr. may face opposition in the 2002 race for governor from his younger brother's alma mater, Ed Rendell, class of '68. Rendell, the former two-term mayor of Philadelphia, has spent this past year as chairman of the Democratic National Committee. Though Rendell has reportedly raised more than \$4 million for his projected gubernatorial run, a Philadelphia Magazine feature on the former mayor last summer predicted that if Gore wins the presidency, Rendell may be asked to join the new cabinet as payback for the extensive fundraising and troubleshooting he has done for Gore and the Democrats this year.

Costello and Bradford both guessed that should Gore win, Rendell would not be settling into a bureaucratic post in Washington in lieu of a fight for the Governor's mansion.

"He's going to run," Costello said.

"Rendell will have millions of dollars to spend on the race," Bradford said. "That's going to be a big race. Rendell will have the money, but the Casey name is magic in Pennsylvania."

private schools creating a "funding crisis around the country." Bush in his own defense (or maybe to not look like a meanie) argued that Gore would not push forward with the higher standards.

Final Round. Then came the issue we were all waiting for, the Exciting Economy Dilemma. Gore stood proud on the backs of the Clinton administration when he stated, "You ain't seen nothin' yet." Bush downplayed the administration's participation in the present economy by saying that "the economy has meant more to Gore/Clinton folks than Gore/Clinton folks have meant to the economy."

Each candidate indeed had a mouthful to say, but what did the debate party attendees think? "I think the critical differences between the two candidates and that which speaks more strongly in favor of Bush is his message of personal responsibility," said, 2L, Erin Ginsburg, a staunch, Bush

Continued on page 6

Student Groups Host Debate Parties

Blow-By-Blow Debate Coverage

By Carmen "Baby" Bell

Quip, quip, bicker, bicker. The sound of a finger nail scraping the podium as it attempts to point at someone. These are the sounds that could be heard coming from the television in the VLS lounge at the first Presidential Debate Party held for the 2000 Presidential Election. This year the candidates to be taking their issues to heart. The Democratic and Republican Law Societies came fully equipped with pizza, pretzels, chips, soda, and beer (for those really bad and shameful parts of the debate) for a long night of nail-biting madness.

The First Round. Bush busted out with the Medicare issue by claiming Gore was involved in too much "squabbling" and "finger-pointing" in giving Bush's proposed campaign numbers. There were several polite interruptions from both candidates, but Bush delivered a final blow when he commented on Gore's Medicare figures by stating, "not only did he invent the Internet, he invented the calculator!" Oh, and Gore goes down!

Second Round. The next round drilled out discussion on oil supply prices. "Clear and better" incentives for domestic

resources was what Gore proposed. In response to this, in traditional Texan fashion, Bush stated that the government needed to "explore at home." Bush proposed more pipelines, the utilization of more coal resources in America and less dependence in foreign sources.

Third Round. Next on the agenda was the very controversial 486 Proposal, the abortion pill. At this point both candi-

"I think Gore is arrogant. Voting for him would be a waste of a vote."

Joe Finneran, 3L

dates were quick to put on their kid gloves. Bush says that there needs to be a common ground on parental consent and banning partial-birth abortion. Gore, on the other hand, surely swept up the feminist vote by expressing his belief that a woman has the right to choose. Gore insisted that his administration would trust women to choose their own destiny and life.

"I'll put competent judges on the Bench," Bush said (I know we are all relieved to know they will be qualified). In response, Gore brought up the achingly

over-publicized Roe v. Wade case, insinuating that Scalia/Thomas types, which are for overturning Roe, would be the sort of justices Bush would pick.

Fourth Round. Next, the moderator unleashed the way over-due, Milosevic issue. Gore began this round by stating the United States owed a duty to support the people of Serbia. Bush seemed to agree, but added that the United States should also allow the Russians to "use their sway" and get involved. Gore objected, saying that the Russians were not quite ready to give such assistance. "Let us not use our troops as nation builders!" Bush exclaimed. The morale, he added, in today's military is too low, and, therefore, the United States must rebuild its own military power before assisting other nations.

2L Francesca Iacovangelo said the debate was "informative," and that the debate party was an "excellent affair set up by the Republican and Democratic Societies." The man with the most interesting name in school, 2L, Konstantinos Yiannopoulos (a.k.a. Dino), added, "Gore made a good point regarding the importance of appointing Supreme Court Justices, since another appointment will most

likely occur in the next few years, therefore, each candidate can not lose sight of that issue."

Next Round. When I returned to the debate party, the crowd had somewhat dwindled, but a group of die-hard politicians remained. The education issue remained, and Gore was up to bat.

"I'm surprised that Bush held his own tonight - but I'm still voting for Gore."

Matt Brown, 2L

Gore seemed a bit harsh when he said Bush didn't understand what needed to be done for education, since he was in favor of vouchers for private schools rather than improving public ones. He claimed Bush's administration would take away money meant for public schools and give it to

SPECIAL GUEST: VLS JOB GURU

Dear Job Guru,

I'm a third year law student, middle of my class, with strong personality and good interview skills. No moot court or journal so the big firms aren't biting. I didn't get any responses from the resume drop. I'm from the area, so I do have some local contacts. What do you suggest is my best plan of the attack before graduation?

Signed,
"Sleepless in Sugartown"

Dear Sleepless:

For those of us who rely, in part, on the sheer force of our personalities to succeed, it's a shame that instead of submitting resumes, law students can't submit videos of themselves (like MTV's "Real World" wannabes). A video would show what a terrific and enthusiastic person you are and what an energetic colleague you would be - traits that a resume or transcript often don't do justice.

Now, don't go getting any ideas about taping yourself wearing a lampshade and singing a song about why you want to work for Dewey Cheatem & Howe. But, find other ways to show potential employers your great personality without going through the "resume first, interview later" gatekeeping process.

How do you get around the gate? Go where the employers are. Make every effort to "see and be seen," as they say, and strike up good conversations with new people. Ask your contacts to introduce you to attorneys who they know. Volunteer for, or attend, professional programs where you can talk face to face with attorneys in your desired field. Attend alumni events. Go to Bar Association events. Coordinate panel discussions. Join your neighborhood association, a basketball

team, or a book group.

Know that the great 10 minute conversation you have with an attorney at a Dean's Roundtable, Alumni function, or Bar Association event can be the equivalent of a good job interview if you take it to the next level and stay in touch with that attorney.

Of course, Job Guru does not advocate "stalking" as a job search strategy. But, persistence and follow-up are traits that employers like in new lawyers - and they are traits that can turn your "cocktail party patter" into real job leads. Drop your new acquaintance a quick e-mail expressing how much you enjoyed your discussion. When you see an article in the press about an issue your new acquaintance would be interested in, copy it, handwrite a short "Hello, this made me think of our discussion" note, and drop it in the mail. Ask your contact for advice on a career topic of mutual interest. If you're going to be in the vicinity of your new contact's office, call the day before and let them know. Maybe you can drop in for a "quick hello." "Rainmakers" generate new client leads this way - and you can generate new job leads by using "rainmaker" methods.

Your career network may not blossom overnight, but with dedication, enthusiasm, and energy, your efforts will ultimately bear fruit.

Dear Job Guru:

Help! I can't stand legal writing! I can't see myself writing briefs or memos for even a year or two. I've been told to just practice law for a few years but don't think I'd make it. I'm much more interested in a business career. Am I wasting my

time here or what?

Signed,
"Start Up Sam"

Dear Start-Up:

First, let me say that I'm sure that your lack of passion for "IRAC" and "CRAC" must be in spite of, and not because of, our excellent Legal Writing Department.

Next, let me also say that as a First Year, you are but a babe in the proverbial legal woods. You haven't yet experienced what it's like to use your legal research and writing skills in the "real world" of solving client problems and answering legal questions. So, Start-Up, before you write off (no pun intended) your legal career, take your legal research and writing skills out for a spin and see how they handle on the roads of "the real world."

That said, if you're interested in pursuing a career in business (i.e., not law), you aren't wasting your time in law school if you work hard to turn your interest in business into a viable career path.

How to do this? Consider the joint MBA / J.D. program. Investigate the possibility of spending part of your First Year summer inside a business, as well as inside a law office. Join industry trade groups in the field(s) you'd like to pursue, so that you can learn from and network with actual businesspeople - not just lawyers - in that industry. Develop and maintain an arsenal of transferable business skills that will make you a credible candidate for a position on the business side of things and which will distinguish you from lawyers who merely like to "dabble" in business affairs.

Pursuing both your legal and non-legal options with vigor and determination will maximize the chance that you'll ultimately find

satisfaction on either career path.

Dear Job Guru:

If an associate at a big law firm makes 100K a year but works 70 hours a week, isn't that really like working two jobs? What do big firm associates really make per hour? This sounds like "fuzzy math" to me.

Signed,
Dubya

Dear Dubya:

Job Guru has spent many years as a big firm associate, and has heard legends about attorneys who discovered the ancient legal secrets of big firm associate compensation - and then whose heads were blown to bits by thunderous lightning bolts, like in Raiders of the Lost Ark.

But seriously, folks. Big firms have many fabulous attributes and can be terrific places to practice law. However, the professional and personal trade-offs that come from skyrocketing starting salaries are no laughing matter. Within just a few years, the largest law firms in America jacked up their starting salaries by at least 40%.

Even though only a small fraction of all practicing lawyers works in large law firms, the ramifications of these "salary wars" are rippling through the legal profession as a whole. Job Guru has heard that some Judges have expressed concern that the number of clerkship applications may be dropping. Job Guru has also heard that some law schools (thankfully, not Villanova!) are finding it tougher to recruit good lawyers to the faculty because they can't seem to unlock the "golden handcuffs." Public service organizations are finding it even more difficult to compete for talent and pro bono hours spent by big firm attorneys are

down overall. And some practicing lawyers - particularly those whose starting salaries were 40% lower than today's - are wondering whether it's all worth it.

Where does the money come from? Much to the dismay of the Job Guru, money doesn't grow on trees and can't be laser-printed in the basement.

These firms typically finance the pay raises in one (or more) of the following ways: (1) encourage more billable hours, (2) divert partner profit distributions, (3) tamp down "overhead" cost - like support staff and other costs of doing business, and (4) raise client rates.

What does this mean for those of you truly interested in big firm life? It means that you have to disprove the stereotype of soon-to-be lawyers that you're "Greedy Associates" who are out to score some quick bucks and then leave. It means that, in some quarters, more may be expected of you than your predecessors: i.e., "you cost more, now show you're worth it."

Don't get Job Guru wrong: a little wealth redistribution can be a good thing now and then. But 40% raises don't usually come for "free."

So, Dubya, you do the math.

Sincerely,
The Job Guru

**Happy
Halloween
from
The VLS
Docket!**

Know Your Role: VLS Says No To WWF Group

BY DEREK SANDLER

In the beginning, there were traditional law societies. Corporate Law, Sports and Entertainment Law, Environmental Law and others. Then as VLS progressed we got Family Law and a division of the ACLU. Each of the Societies has enriched the lives of law students at this institution by either expanding our horizons about specific areas of law, or by giving students an opportunity to congregate with fellow students who share certain experiences or life styles. However, VLS took a stand against the founding of the WWF Society.

Entrepreneurs Mike Titus and Mike Traud, along with John Thiry and Ryan Costello came up with a novel idea - found a law society that brings together people who simply cannot get enough of TV's ultimate Drama-

wrestling. In fact, our very own Dean Sargeant is a proponent of wrestling. Rumor has it he said he would try to make it to a couple of Smackdown's in the lounge. So where then did the ball get dropped?

The founders of the WWF society actually went through proper channels. They got a petition, had people sign it, and sent it to the administration for approval. The administration was torn over the issue. At one point the Resuschilin Room was a chaotic mess of administrators, arguing their points through body slams and using foreign objects. Actually, the proposal was shot down in a matter of seconds. A certain Dean felt it was not substantially related to law.

So rather than pointing fingers, I went to Titus and Traud to find out what the society was all about. Mike Titus stated that the purpose

was not truly related to law. But he was quick to add that there were wrestling-related lawsuits for infringement, dilution, licensing disputes, and a wrongful death action. The purpose of the society was to forget about the stress of law school for a little while. I asked where the dues would go. He said the dues would be used for food and beer on Thursdays before Smackdown.

Now, at first glance, one might say that such use is entirely inconsistent with law school. But is it? We all have tons of work. And if you do not have a lot of work, then it must be lonely at the top. So if we can find a way of reducing our stress just a bit, without stepping on anyone's toes, it should be permitted. Well, I had to determine whether anyone would truly be harmed by the founding of such a society. Wrestling certainly does not

conjure up a passive, educational image in one's mind. Nor does wrestling offer much enlightenment in general. But we get enough of that in class and at home trying to study for exams.

So the point that I would like to leave here is what constitutes a permissible use of a VLS society? I argue that this University should cherish novel ideas that give our students a momentary break from the long hours and hard work.

Wrestling, writing poetry, or whatever alleviates stress that does not harm anyone should be encouraged rather than routinely shot down. And if any of you out there would like to hear a convincing argument in favor of the WWF society, ask future politician Ryan Costello for his thoughts on the matter.

Debate Party Cont. from pg. 5

supporter. She added, "The greatest fundamental principle upon which American is founded is individualism, and with all those freedoms comes a measure of personal accountability and responsibility, and that Bush trusts America's ability to live up to that standard."

"Who you are as a leader is not defined by the declarations you make in front of a camera, but what you do when no one is looking," claimed, 3L, Andrew Schmuhl. "Gore has showed in this respect that he is not a leader," he said.

2L Matthew Brown stated that he was "surprised Bush handled himself as he did." Did that fact have any impact on Brown's decision on who to elect in November? "I think it's clear Gore has a better grasp of the issues and what it takes to deal with them," said Brown, "I was surprised that Bush held his own tonight-but I'm still voting for Gore."

Some students were more expressive of what they thought about the debate and the candidates. "I think Gore's an arrogant SOB," said, 3L, Joseph Finneran. "Voting for him would be a waste of a vote and a dark day for America!"

"Both candidates engaged in a lot of semantics and hair-splitting," added, 1L, Darin Hoffman, "It's difficult for the average voter to try and understand the candidates or what their

doing something else. So I guess they're not all evil. I hope they realize that the Docket's criticism of a policy does not mean criticism of any person. Next goal - getting them to release our elected reps voting records and full election results. Impossible? Hey, someone once told me that budget would never see print as well.

Love is in the Air: What the Heck is in Those Shrimp?

You know the seminal law school classic The Paper Chase, where the crotchety old Professor Kingsfield says "look to your left, look to your right, one of the persons sitting next to you won't graduate?" (or something like that). Well, here at VLS it's more like "look to your left and right, cause the guy or gal next to you might become your husband or wife! Seriously, people are getting engaged and hitched left and right. And many to each other! Yes, intra-law school romance! Maybe that's why they call it the "Wild" Onion. Shouldn't these kids be outlining or something? Next month we'll list all those who are engaged or recently married.

THIS JUST IN -A troubling report on the romance scene from the Docket's 3L-1L relations bureau. We have a terrible story about an "upperclassman" who recently tried the old, time-honored, "need any outlines?" approach on an attractive VLS newbie (usually pretty effective, I might add). This shocked male was met with a curt "oh, I know your name - I already have all your outlines" followed by the cold shoulder and big blow-off. Ouch! Thanks a lot, all you free outline givin' colleagues! Ruin it for everybody!

Oh yeah, one last thing. The Docket is hiring. As this month's cover says (in response to an actual question posed to us at the Activities Fair this year: "Uh, like, what's the difference between you guys and Law Review?"), we rival Law Review in prestige. And we're much more lenient with our writing requirements. We need a photographer too. A camera (digital - cool) is provided. Also, there's an urgent need for an SBA reporter. Because someone really needs to keep an eye on those rat bastards. (just kidding). Till next time.

Corrections

- *The SBA Vice-President is Willis Watson.
- *The SBA Secretary is Amy Gaudion.
- *SBA's budget totals near \$60,000 for the year, not \$50,000.
- *The SBA Board is not a bunch of Commie Pinkos.

Slightly used Laptop for sale. Like New, loaded, upgraded. Great for outlines, finals, and study groups. \$795. Tons of software and extras. E-mail The Docket for info.

The Cave, the Three-Toed Sloth, and Family

By Jen Batchelor

"You don't look that much alike, but your voices are the same." Brothers John (2L) and Jeff Johnson (1L), both students here at VLS, get that alot. Personally, I think they have the same eyes and smile, but that's just my opinion - I could be wrong. I wouldn't say Mike Carr, their cousin, a 3L, has the same voice, but I see the resemblance in the sense of humor.

Those of you who know these guys know they are smart, friendly, and fun. But did you know that studying law at Villanova is actually a tradition in this family? John and Jeff's father, John Johnson, Jr., also attended Villanova Law. (Other notable students gracing the halls at that time were Professors Dobbyn and Taggart.) I was fortunate to snag some time with John, Jeff, and Mike to learn a little about their family's VLS tradition, and to pick their brains about law school:

Q: What can you tell me about Mr. Johnson's VLS experience?

MAC (Mike): A lot of his class quit part of the way through. It sounds like law school was a lot tougher then.

JCJ (John): And just think, they had no Lexis or Westlaw. (me: Yeah, that definitely would've sucked.)

JSJ (Jeff): And my dad worked long hours during the week while attending law school full-time. He used to take Gilbert's to class a lot. (author's note: Apparently, that same Gilbert's is still being circulated through the family - check it out in class some time.)

Q: So what kind of law does Mr. Johnson practice?

JCJ: Actually, he has his own securities and financial planning business. MAC: He did start out practicing law, though. JSJ: He worked in Septa's legal department.

Q: Do you actually want to be attorneys?

MAC: I used to work for the Government in Social Security (as a benefit authorizer), so I may try to be a government lawyer. If that doesn't work out, I'll be a towel boy

or a stripper at the Cave. I've already got experience as a towel boy there...

(author's note: Ladies, if you've never been to the Cave and you're looking for something wildly different from the Wild Onion, head to Delaware Ave. It's in a club called the Warehouse. Don't forget to ask for Mike.)

JCJ: I'm going to do something business-oriented.

JSJ: Me too.

Q: So Mike, how could you let John go to law school and still live with yourself?

MAC: First I went to make sure the family tradition kept under way. I didn't think it was so bad, so I told John to definitely go.

Q: And John, how could you let your own brother go to law school and still live with yourself?

JCJ: Mike told him to go, too. And I didn't think it was that bad, so I told him to go for it.

JSJ: I was willing to give it a shot as long as they gave me outlines!

Q: So how do you guys feel about spending a good chunk of your "me" years in law school?

(author's note: You know the "me years" - that time in life when it's OK to skip vacuuming for three weeks, sit on the couch in sweats eating cereal right out of the box, drink whatever you want, and watch re-runs of Friends and Seinfeld for hours on end.)

A: There was general agreement that law school cramps one's style.

MAC: Having a paycheck was nice.

JCJ: I spent a year in Colorado and had a great time, but it got old. I felt it was time to get serious and focus on the future. Of course, Vail is looking good now.

JSJ: Being in school beats working.

Q: Where do you see yourselves five years after graduating from this illustrious institution?

MAC: In my pad on Delaware Avenue so I can be near work (i.e. the Cave).

JCJ: Retired in Hawaii.

JSJ: Still working on my memo.

Q: Besides John, because I know

you have, have either of you snagged one of the few kick-ass ladies at VLS? (author's note: I say "few" because this group is comprised in part of myself and Heather, and there just aren't that many more of us out there... Sorry fellas, I'm taken too.)

(Editor's note - see, now the female writers are using this trick too!!)

MAC: I'm not dating anyone at the law school. My towel boy job keeps me too busy.

JSJ: I'm still single. The 1L girls are too busy fending off the 2Ls.

(Editor's note: 3Ls like 1Ls too. And they're more mature and have more outlines than 2L guys.)

Q: Give me a class or professor recommendation.

MAC: Family Law with Professor Becker. He covers all the topics really thoroughly.

JCJ: Corporations with Professor Dobbyn. It's a good class.

JSJ: Professor Juliano. I like the in-class entertainment by fellow students. (i.e. Miked renditions of "I'm a Little Teapot".)

Q: Have you found a cafeteria food you would recommend above all others?

MAC: My appearances in the cafeteria are rare, but I go for the cheese steaks.

JCJ: I avoid the cafeteria as much as possible.

JSJ: Cold sandwiches. They need milkshakes and real ice cream.

Q: For what two reasons are you most likely to skip class? (author's note: To spfice it up, I made this one multiple choice.)

(a) sleep

(b) too busy

(c) to do memo/brief/paper/work for another class

(d) nice weather/the inside of the school looks like a detention center, so not even a choice; or bad weather/too dangerous to walk from the car to the detention center, so not even a choice.

(e) too smart to go to class

(f) late and don't want to sing "I'm a Little Teapot"

MAC (hereinafter "Iron Man"): I

have never missed a class. I am the Cal Ripken of VLS.

JCJ: (a) and (d)(nice weather option)

JSJ: (b) and (f) (author's note: 1L's still get to go out all the time.)

Q: Now, I've had a lot of classes with John. Is the coming in right before class starts a family thing?

A: Apparently, they all make it to class just under the wire. It's a family thing.

Q: Please give a word of advice, on any topic, to your fellow students.

Iron Man: Attend class and try to get outlines.

JCJ: Don't believe the hype and don't let the man get you down.

(author's note: That one's for you, Derek.)

JSJ: I can't give any advice because I'm still not sure what's going on. I'll just say it's weird not to have any grades until December. (author's note: He's dreaming if he thinks he'll get grades before February.)

Q: If you could have any kind of pet, no worries about caring for it during law school, what would it be?

Iron Man: A three-toed sloth. Arboreal animals have a certain appeal.

JCJ: A Rottweiler. (John noted that the only thing he has been able to keep alive thus far is a cactus.)

JSJ: A dog. It would have to be smart, so a Lab or a Golden Retriever. (author's note: He's clearly after girls with that one. Derek, did that work?)

Q: Do you believe in aliens?

Iron Man: Yes, and only those who believe will be saved.

JCJ: I'm with him.

JSJ: The truth is out there.

Have a picture of you with a famous person?

Do you look like a celebrity?

If so, the Docket wants to print your pictures!

e-mail docket@law.villanova.edu

SPECIAL REPORT: On-Site Run Down of ABA Annual Meeting on Sports and Entertainment Law

By: Cathleen A. Sabatino

On October 13th and 14th some of the most influential people in entertainment and sports convened in Orlando, Florida for this year's American Bar Association (ABA) Forum on the Entertainment and Sports Industries. This event is held annually and is designed to create a forum for the discussion of current issues affecting the entertainment and sports industries.

The event began on Friday with registration and a panel of five attorneys currently practicing in the areas of music, television, motion pictures and sports. This panel was designed specifically to answer the questions of the law students and young lawyers in attendance. Topics included "establishing a respectable Sports and Entertainment Law Society in a school that is not located in a city known for this specialized practice area," and "how to get an informational interview with your dream employer."

The day continued with sessions in music, sports, and motion pictures and television. During the morning sessions there were a wide range of topics discussed. The music sessions discussed Napster litigation and piracy issues. The state of sports law and the growing presence of women in sports law were discussed in the sports sessions. The motion picture and television panel discussed pay-per-view as well as counseling clients in the production, distribution and financing of animation projects.

During the luncheon the intended speaker was Jimmy Iovine, Co-Chairman of Interscope Geffen A&M and co-founder of Interscope Records, however Mr. Iovine was unexpectedly called to Europe. LaVerne Evans, General Counsel for BMG Music and Joel A. Katz, ABA Sports and Entertainment Law Forum Chair, stepped in as replacements. Mr. Katz commented on the fact that this forum was attended by a

larger number of law students than he had ever seen in the past. For this reason, Ms. Evans and Mr. Katz decided to discuss their personal experiences in their climb to success. Mr. Katz relayed the story of how his first entertainment client came to be James Brown and Ms. Evans discussed the career path that led her to BMG.

After the luncheon there were more sessions with discussion of live performance and the globalization of the music business and regulation of agents and sports on the Internet. Additionally, programming and licensing issues on the Internet and structuring the production of television and theatrical motion pictures were discussed.

This long day was followed by a reception and midnight breakfast at which all speakers and participants were able to get to know each other. While the established attorneys enjoyed conversing with colleagues, these events seemed to be the most beneficial to the law students in

attendance. They were given the opportunity to make contacts and discuss issues with people they would more than likely never get to meet otherwise. It also gave students the chance to meet one another and share ideas on ways to establish themselves in an area of the law that seems almost impossible to get into.

On Saturday all attendees participated in a session presented by the American Arbitration Association discussing mediation and arbitration as it relates to entertainment and sports. The final session of the weekend discussed merchandising, licensing and making money on the web.

This event proved to be an educational experience for all law students in attendance. The speakers as well as the other practitioners present were willing and eager to discuss their experiences with the law students. Next year, the ABA Forum on the Entertainment and Sports Industries is scheduled for October 19th and 20th in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Welcome to law school: Sleep is optional. **Westlaw, a necessity.**

Time is precious,
especially in
law school.

Make the most
of your research time
with Westlaw®.

It's easy to learn,
and a snap to use.

Hey, the quicker
you research,
the more time
you have to sleep.

Access Westlaw at:

lawschool.westlaw.com



Westlaw.

25 Westlaw
YEARS OF e-INNOVATION

